

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 38, 41, and 78. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

Claims 1-37 (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A fluid filtering device comprising:
- a) a plurality of filtering wells within a plate wherein each filtering well includes a flat membrane at the bottom of a storage chamber for processing a fluid and wherein the flat membrane is essentially horizontal with respect to the plane of the plate; and
 - b) an angling mechanism, wherein the angling mechanism sets the angle of the flat membranes within the plurality of filtering wells at a non 90° angle relative to a line perpendicular to an axis of rotation about which the plate rotates, the line passing through the center of a plane of the plate.
39. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein the angling mechanism includes a support device which can hold the flat membrane for filtering a fluid at a non 90° angle relative to the line.
40. (Original) The device of Claim 39 wherein the angling mechanism includes a wedge.
41. (Currently Amended) A fluid filtering device comprising:
- a) a plurality of wells within a plate wherein each well includes a flat membrane at the bottom of a storage chamber for filtering a fluid, wherein at least three membranes in the plurality of wells are at different angles with respect to a major plane of the plate; and

- b) an angling mechanism wherein the angling mechanism sets the angle of one or more of the flat membranes at a non-zero angle relative to the major plane of the plate.

42. (Canceled)

43. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein the angle relative to the plane of the plate includes a side-to-side orientation of the flat membrane.

44. (Original) The device of Claim 41 wherein the filtering wells are located in an array in the same plane.

45. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein each flat membrane in each well includes an individually specified angle relative to the plane of the plate.

Claims 46-49 (Canceled)

50. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein the angling mechanism includes a support device which can hold the flat membrane for filtering a fluid at a non zero-angle relative to the plane of the plate.

51. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein the angling mechanism includes a wedge.

52. (Withdrawn) The device of Claim 41 further comprising a centrifuge and a swinging bucket attached to the centrifuge, wherein the plate is positioned within the bucket and the angling mechanism is placed between the center of rotation and a base of the swinging bucket.

53. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein each of the plurality of wells includes the angling mechanism.
54. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 53 wherein each angling mechanism in each well includes an individually specified angle relative to the line.
55. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein the plane of the flat membranes are at a non-zero angle relative to the plane of the plate.
56. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein the flat membrane includes a microfiltration membrane.
57. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein the flat membrane includes an ultrafiltration membrane.
58. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein said wells are arranged in rows and columns.
59. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 58 wherein the angles of the flat membranes within a row are substantially the same.
60. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein the angling mechanism has an angle between 5° and 30°.
61. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein the plurality of wells includes at least 96 wells.
62. (Canceled)

63. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 41 for use in a centrifuge for increasing average filtrate flow rate in a filtration well plate.
64. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein the planes of the flat membranes are at a non 90° angle relative to the line.
65. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein the flat membrane includes a microfiltration membrane.
66. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein the flat membrane includes an ultrafiltration membrane.
67. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein said wells are arranged in rows and columns.
68. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 67 wherein the angles of the flat membranes within a row are substantially the same.
69. (Previously presented) The centrifuge of Claim 38 wherein the angling mechanism has an angle between 5° and 30°.
70. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein the plurality of wells includes at least 96 wells.
71. (Canceled)
72. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein the angling mechanism has an angle between 2° and 30°.

73. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein the plurality of wells includes at least two wells.
74. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 41 wherein the plurality of wells includes at least twelve wells.
75. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein the angling mechanism has an angle between 2° and 30°.
76. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein the plurality of wells includes at least two wells.
77. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein the plurality of wells includes at least twelve wells.
78. (Currently Amended) A fluid filtering device comprising:
- a) a plurality of filtering wells within a plate, each well including a membrane for processing a fluid, the membranes being coplanar with the plate and wherein the membranes are essentially horizontal with respect to the plane of the plate; and
 - b) an angling mechanism that sets the angle of the membranes within the plurality of filtering wells at a non 90° angle relative to a line perpendicular to an axis of rotation about which the plate rotates, the line passing through the center of a plane of the plate.
79. (Previously Presented) A fluid filtering device comprising:
- a) a plurality of filtering wells within a plate, each well including a flat membrane at the bottom of a storage chamber for processing a fluid; and
 - b) an angling mechanism that sets the angle of the flat membranes at a respective non-zero angle relative to the plane of the plate, the respective angles decreasing as the position of the respective wells increases relative to a line perpendicular to

an axis of rotation about which the plate rotates, the line passing through the center of a plane of the plate.

80. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 78 wherein the angling mechanism includes a support device which can hold the flat membrane for filtering a fluid at a non 90° angle relative to the line.
81. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 80 wherein the angling mechanism includes a wedge.
82. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 78 wherein the angling mechanism is located outside of the plate.